IAP16 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 SEP 2006 10/593489

PATENT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 0095/025001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Tooru SEKIYA et al. Art Unit: Application No.: filed concurrently Examiner:

Title: SWELLING/CONTRACTING FILTER

International Application No.: PCT/JP2005/005187
International Filing Date : March 23, 2005
Priority Date : March 25, 2004

U.S. Filing Date : September 20, 2006

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicant requests that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

Enclosed also please find a copy of the International Search Report citing three references. The relevance of these references can be seen from the International Search Report. The English abstract of the Japanese Patent Application of these references are also enclosed.

Please also note that Japanese Patent No. 2766959 is discussed on page 2 of the specification.

Please also note that the English language translation of Japanese Patent No. 2766959 is also enclosed. Please also note that this English translation is machine translation provided by the Japan Patent Office and the Japan Patent Office states that the translation may not precisely reflect the original Japanese text.

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Information Disclosure Statement Applicants: Tooru SEKIYA et al. Title: SWELLING/CONTRACTING FILTER Filing Date: September 20, 2006

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This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 20, 2006

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					Applicants	Tooru SEKIYA et al.			
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					Examiner Name				
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER Cite DOCUMENT

INITIAL* No.		NUM	BER	ER Kind Code ² (if known)		NAME		DATE MM-YYYY		Where Relevant Passage Figures Appe	s or Relevant
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		JP	55-12291		В	KUBOTA et al.		04/1980		<u></u>	Abstract
		JP	56-35923		В	KOSEKI et al.		08/1981			Abstract
		JP	2766959		В	ORII et al.		04/1998			X
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EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

^{*}Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.